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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): HIROI et al

Serial No.: 10/079,428

Filed: February 22, 2002

For: Apparatus For Inspecting A Specimen

Art Unit: 2881

Examiner: K. Fernandez

**REAFFIRMATION OF CLAIM FOR PRIORITY**

Mail Stop: Box Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 13, 2005

Sir:

Under the provisions of 35 USC §119 and 37 CFR §1.55, applicants hereby claim the right of priority based on Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-298910, filed in Japan on September 28, 2001.

The certified copy of the above-referred to Japanese Patent Application was filed on February 5, 2002 in prior application Serial No. 10/062,666, filed February 5, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,

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